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WASHINGTON, D. C., TUESDAY, MARCH 15, 1898-TWENTY-TWO PAGES.

TWO CENTS.

IN CABINET SESSION

Military Preparations of the Departments Discussed.

BIDS FOR TRANSPORTATION OPENED

First Meeting of the Fortifications Board.

INVESTIGATION POSTPONED

The President's cabinet, in a protracted meeting this morning, discussed exhaustively the military preparations of the de-

Secretary Long, it was stated, looked for a report from the Maine court of inquiry later in the week.

Bids were epened for the transportation of artillery batteries to the coast defenses. The fortifications board began a series of

An attempt was made in the House to take up the bill for the relief of the Maine

sufferers, but objection was made. The Senate naval affairs committee decided to postpone the proposed investiga-

Reports from Havana indicate that the report of the court of inquiry will be ready in two or three days.

Pope Leo uses his good offices to prevent war with Spain.

San Francisco sails from Lisbon.

tion of the Maine disaster.

The cabinet today devoted its session to a discussion of the details of the work being done in the Navy and War Departments. It was said that the actual work of the meeting could have been accomplished in twenty minutes, but that the officials were so deeply interested that they remained two hours listening to the President and other members. A number of telegrams as to negotiations going on in this country and abroad were read and commented on

It is admitted that the government is still in search of good ships and will take all it can get that are worth being paid for. The purchase of the Brazilian cruisers has not satisfied the President that the country is sufficiently supplied with good fighting machines, and he will sanction the purchase of others if they are well recom-

Numerous details of contracts made and about to be made for war material of all kinds were submitted and talked over.

In connection with the discussion on the general preparations, Secretary Long submitted the offers of sale of various vessels which might be turned into auxiliary cruisers in case of war. There are many offers of this kind. They require consideration and sifting. The most of this work will devolve on the President and Secretary Long, but advice and suggestions are wel-

come from all cabinst officials. Report of the Court of Inquiry.

The cabinet was not given any information as to when the court of inquiry will make its report. Secretary Long is still of the opinion, it is said, that the report will be forthcoming the last of this week. Nothing was discussed as to how the report will be made public when it does come. The belief is expressed in some circles that it will be first made public by being sent to Congress by the President. There is a general fear in official circles that enterprising newspapers may obtain the substance of the report ahead of the administration. They don't know how this could be done, however, and will do all in their power to guard against such an occurrence.

The President said nothing today, it is claimed, to indicate his intentions in future dealings with Spain. He enters with a great deal of interest into the discussion of the preparations making with members of the cabinet, but he carefully refrains from saying anything which would indicate the bent of his mind. In fact, he gives his confidence on this subject to few persons, and reports as to what the President has said to callers are generally the work of vivid imaginations.

The meeting of the cabinet at an earlier hour than usual today had the effect to largely suspend active operations in the War and Navy Departments during the ferenoon. It was not long, however, after the meeting began before some of the bureau officers of the Navy Department were called upon by telephone and messenger to supply information on techineal points, showing that the cabinet was more or less concerned in the situation.

Fortifications Board in Session. The fortifications board began its sessions today in the War Department. The pro-

ceedings are guarded zealously against publication. Lieut. Very, the representative of the Howell Torpedo Company, has submitted to the War Department a proposition to supplement the defenses of the larger coast perts, such as New York and Boston, by equipping a number of light-draught steam launches with torpedo outfits. He urges that by the full use of this means of deferse the harbors may be kept open for commerce up to the last moment, which would not be the case were sole reliance placed on the ordinary fixed mine and torpedo. These torpedos have a range of about two miles, and start off at a speed of thirty knots, and if the boats from which they are discharged are properly sheltered, as proposed by Lieut. Very, they would undoubtedly be valuable adjuncts to the coast defense. The difficulty, however, is that the army has heretofore regarded auto-Mobile torpedoes as proper instru-

ments for naval use, and are scarcely disposed to change their policies at this date.

Ability to Supply Rifles. A representative of the Winchester Arms Company was in conference today with General Miles and General Flagler at the office of the bureau of ordnance of the army, with a view to examining various patterns of rifles made by this concern, and of ascertaining how speedily they could be furnished in large quantities in case of emergency. Samples of two of the latest patterns of 30-caliber rifles, one a Winchester and the other a Lee straight-pull gun, were examined. No contracts were made, but the conference led to a full understanding as to how speedily an urgent demand for rifles could be met. The representative of the Winchester company stated that the present commercial demand, partieularly that connected with the Klondike ex-

citement, kept the company at its full capacity, but that government orders would be filled without reference to these private obligations. The company has a force of twenty-two hundred men, and by working ten hours a day, with several shifts, it is believed that the government could be supplied with rifles at a very rapid rate. A large number of Winchesters could be sup-

Contracts for Transportation.

B. is were opened in the quartermaster's office of the War Department today for transporting some of the artillery batter: 3 that are to man the fortification works recently completed. The batteries for whose movements bids were opened include the following: Battery L, 4th Artillery, from Fert McHenry, Md., to Fort Delaware; Battery I. 4th Artillery, from Washington, D. C., barracks to Fort Mott, near Fort Delaware; Battery E, 4th Artillery, from Fort Monroe to Sheridan's Point, on the Potomac: Battery I, 2d Artillery, from Fort Monroe to Fort Caswell, near the mouth of the Cape Fear river; Battery F, 1st Artillery, from Fort Monroe to Tybee Island, Gu.: Battery I, 1st Artillery, from Fort Monroe to Fort Morgan, Ala.

Other movements for which bids will be opened at the nearest available headquarters are the band, headquarters and Battery C of the 1st Artillery, from St. Augustine to Sullivan's Island. Charleston harbor; Light Battery B, 4th Artillery, from Fort Riley, Kan., to Jackson barrucks, La.; Light Battery F, 4th Artillery, from Fort Riley to Fort Monroe; Light Battery F, 5th Artillery, from Fort Riley to Savannah, Ga. The light battery at Fort Sam Houstan, Texas, will go to Galveston. A number of the tailroads operating in the territory covered by these movements submitted bids, the awards of which will be announced later.

The movements in New York and New England as a result of the recent orders are: 5th Artillery-Two batteries from Fort Slecum to Fort Hancock, one battery from Fort Wadsworth to Fort Hancock, and one battery from Fort Hamilton to Fort Hancock. 2d Artillery-One battery from Fort

Adams to Long Island Head. The Pennsylvania railroad was awarded the contract for carrying the troops from Washington barracks to Fort Mott and from Fort McHenry to Fort Delaware, and

the Seaboard Air Line, from Fort Monroe to Forts Morgan, Caswell and Tybee Island.

Artillery for the Militia. Inspired by the war sentiment prevailing in many parts of the country, others of state militia organizations have been inquiring of the War Department as to alletments of arms, ammunition, etc., in the event of trouble. There is an annual appropriation, aggregating about \$400,000, that is allotted among the militia of the several states, according to their numerical strength, and the money granted may be expended for any branch of the service desired. That feature which has received some attention lately relates to the artil lery field pieces, only a few states of which have been supplied with this necessary adjunct to successful military service. The militia organizations have, as a rule, been satisfied with the ordinary Napoleon 12pounder brass cannon, which fires a solid ball, but their use has been almost entirely disearded in the regular army. Of late years the states of New York, Illinois, Pennsylvania, Vermont, Utah and a few other states have been furnished with the new field artiflery pieces used by the War Department in its service. The officials are prompt to accede to the requests of the militia organizations if their allotment of the annual appropriation made by Congress is not exhausted; but in the absence of any money on hand to the credit of the states no equipment of any character can be given them. The artillery strength of the state militia organizations in time of peace is four field pieces and in time of war six

The agent in this country of the Thorny roft Torpedo Boat Company of England, Mr. Platt, has submitted to Secretary Long a proposition for the sale to the govern ment of designs and complete working drawings for the five torpedo boat destroy ers built by his firm. Predicting that the department would find it absolutely impossible to buy any of these craft in Eu rope at this juncture Mr. Platt has urged the propriety of having the government here start immediately a number of our shipbuilding firms in the construction of these boats. The particular pattern is that of the torpedo boat destroyer Fame, built for the British government. This craft, the type of those so strongly desired by the Navy Department just now, is of more than 20 knots speed and 300 tons burden, large enough to be thoroughly seaworthy, and carrying sufficient coal at economical speed to run 4,000 knots. This is an advantage not possessed by any of our boats, the importance of which is fully illustrated by the difficulties confronting the efforts of the Spaniards to get their torpedo boat flotilla across the Atlantic to Cuba. Based upon the statements of shipbuilders who have been approached on the subject the department has satisfied itself that a number of these boats can be built in from six to eight months.

We now have under construction in the United States four boats rated at thirty krots, but with the exception of the one built at the Union iron works, which is 60 per cent advanced toward completion, very little progress has been made in their con struction. One of the bcats is building a Harlan & Hollingsworth's, one at the Gas Engine and Power Company, and one at Wolff & Zwicker's, Portland, Oregon,

Work at Recruiting Stations. The navigation bureau of the Navy De partment is receiving reports of the results of the efforts making at the various recruiting stations to obtain men for the navy. Twenty boys have been received on board the receiving ship Wabash at Boston, and thirty will be enlisted in a day or two. All will be transferred to the training station at Newport. Owing to the limited accommodations there, however, the department has not been able to progress as rapidly as it desires in enlisting boys. So far the Columbia is about 200 men shor of her quota of 402, but it is hoped that the necessary men, mostly firemen and coal passers, can be secured in the course of a

Movements of the Warships. The gunboat Annapolis has started home from the West Indies, leaving Curacoa yesterday directly for Key West. She has a number of apprentices aboard, being a training ship, and it is not yet determined whether she will be attached to the squadron. The torpedo boat Winslow arrived at Key West yesterday. The steel tug Samoset arrived at Beaufort yesterday morning and proceeded immediately on her way to Key West in the afternoon. The torpedo boat Foote also sailed from Charleston for Jacksonville yesterday. The tug Leyden arrived at League Island this morning. She

(Continued on Eighth Page.)

Report on Maine May Be Made in a Few Days.

DIVERS VERIFYING SOME DETAILS

Pope Leo Uses His Influence to Preserve Peace.

WAR IN THE PHILLIPINES

NEW YORK, March 15 .- The World's correspondent at Havana telegraphs today that the report of the naval board of inquiry will be ready to forward to Washington in two or three days at the outside. A few little details of expert testimony are teing carefully collected to wind up things, and the drawings and plans based on the fivers' investigations are nearly finished. The divers are only descending now to verify the points already suggested by previous discoveries and to take accurate measurements of certain important plates of the wrecked cruiser and the twisted ram, which the correspondent asserts lies n such a pesition as to prove that an outside force destroyed the battle ship. Pope Leo Strives for Pence.

LONDON, March 15 .- The Pall Mall Gasette this afternoon publishes a dispatch from Rome which says there has been a recent exchange of communications beween the Vatican and Spain in regard to Cuba and the relations with the United States. The pope, it is added, is ready to do everything in his power to prevent hostilities, "which might be fatal to the Span-ish dynasty."

Continuing, the dispatch says: "The Vatican has specially exerted influ-ence at Washington, and has tried directly and indirectly to dissuade the United States from plunging into war with Spain. According to information here, if the offices of the portiff are accepted, he will propose that Cuba remain under the dominion of Spain, but that it be ruled on the lines of an English colony.

Germany's Advice Unasked. BERLIN, March 15 .- The North German

Gazette this afternoon denies that Germany has received any inquiry from the United States in regard to her attitude in the

O'Higgius Purchase Reasserted. LONDON, March 15.-It is reasserted here today that the Spanish government has secured the Chilean battle ship O'Higgins, which has been built by the Armtrongs for Chile. War Material for Spain.

BIRMINGHAM, England, March 15 .- The

Kynochs Company has already dispatched part of a large Spanish order for special projectiles, standing four and one-half feet high, the largest ever made by the Ky-

The War in the Philippines. MADRID, March 15 .- According to an official dispatch received here from Manilla, apital of the Philippine Islands, today, five hundred insurgents were killed during the dispatch adds the insurgent forces have not offered any to the Spanish troops sent to resistance

the relief of the garrison. San Francisco Leaves Lisbon. LISBON, March 15 .- The United States cruiser San Francisco sailed from here today, going in a southwesterly direction The war department has decided to complete the defenses of the port of Lisbon as speedily as possible.

It is stated at the Navy Department that the San Franciseo is not going to take a southwesterly course, but has been ordered to Great Britain, where she will make up a crew for the Amazonas, the Brazilian cruiser purchased by the United States. It the present intention to have the San rancisco convoy the Amazonas across the Atlantic, but this purpose is not a fixed

TRANSFER OF TORTUGAS. Surgeon General Wyman Conferring

With Other Officials. The transfer of the Island of Tortugas from the jurisdiction of the Treasury Department to the War Department has not vet been effected, though the marine hospital authorities assert their readiness to

vacate whenever the necessity arises. Surgeon General Wyman was conferring with the other officials today as to the plan to be pursued upon the relinquishment of the quarantine station at Tortugas, and went carefully over a number of propositions looking either to the establishment of another station in that general neighborhood or the enlargement of some of the exvice at Tortugas. As yet there is no defi nite action determined upon as to this

Dr. Wyman said today he did not care to do anything that might be looked upon as an obstruction to the plans, but so far as possible and consistent the meds of the marine hospital service and ne responsible work dependent upon it should be considered and attended to in connection with the transfer of the island. He had no plans fixed yet, but, if necessary, the service could be removed from the island in twenty-four hours on an emergency.

PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATIONS.

Promotions in the Commissary De-The President today sent these nomina

tions to the Senate: L. J. Pettijohn, to be receiver of public moneys at Dodge City, Kan.: Albert L Love, to be register of the land office at

Bozeman, Mont. War-Promotions in commissary genera of subsistence department: Lieutenant Coionel C. P. Eagan, to be colonel; Major J. J. Clague, to be lieutenant colonel; Captain A. L. Smith, to be major; First Lieutenant A. D. Niskern, 2d Infantry, to be captain. Navy-Pay Inspector James E. Tolfree, o be a pay director; George M. Lukesh of Ohio, to be an assistant paymaster. Postmasters—Illinois: John A. Bingham, andalia; O. V. Parkinson, Centralia.

Virginia-R. Lee Rosson, Culpeper. DISAPPROVED THE FINDINGS.

Secretary Long's Action in the Case of

Lieut. Com. Adams. Lieut. Commander James D. Adams, attached to the coast defense ship Monterey at Mare Island, Cal., was recently acquitted by general court-martial of the charge of drunkenness on duty. Secretary Long, being of opinion that the circumstances of the case as disclosed by the evidence, justified a different conclusion, has issued an order disapproving the findings of the court and administering a sharp reprimand. Inorder disapproving the findings of the court and administering a sharp reprimand. In-asmuch, however, as the findings of the court are binding on the department, the officer has been released from arrest and restored to duty. The common-law rule that a man cannot be put in jeopardy more than once for the same offense prevails in the navy just as it does in the civil juris-diction.

COURT'S WORK DONE CONDITIONS UNCHANGED WORK ON DEFENSES

The Feeling in Congress in Regard to the Cuban Question.

Many Rumors Affoat - The Adjournment Story Not Reliable-The Court of Inquiry Report.

According to the statements of men in ooth houses of Congress who aim to keep themselves posted from day to day as to the developments of the situation there has been no change in conditions. The Cuban question has been developing steadily along ORGANIZING IN OREGON the lines which have been apparent for nore than a week. The preparations for war are going on with all possible energy, and nothing has occurred to render the aspect of affairs less serious, except that the better prepared this country is for war the greater becomes the hope that Spain will act with some degree of wisdom. The fact that this government has purchased the two Brazilian cruisers gives more promise of peace than would their purchase by Spain. The fact that we are able to make Spain. The fact that we are able to make such effective preparations for war in a short time, while Spain's best efforts make but slow progress, is also an argument for Spain to be more reasonable than to force war upon us. According to the most reliable information, it is in this way only that the situation has become more satisfactor. There is no change in the situafactory. There is no change in the situa-tion that can be foreseen until the report of the board of inquiry has been received After that developments are expected to be rapid.

Rumors of All Sorts Affont. Meanwhile rumors of all sorts are started

by men with theories and men who have some selfish aim to advance Most of the reports relate to impossible conditions and things which could not have any influence upon the main issue. The report that a syndicate is ready to put up the money for Cuba to buy her indepen-dence is not credited by the best informed men in Congress, and if it were true, it is said, it would not materially change the aspect of affairs. There is no indication that Spain will charge from the position of not being willing to part with Cuba under any conditions, least of all for money. Nor would the willingness of certain wealthy more to make investments in Cuba wealthy men to make investments in Cuba have any relation to the Maine disaster. It is pointed out that none of these sugestions affect the fact that it lies with Spain to determine whether she is going to make war necessary, and that the policy of this government is straightforward and to make war necessary, and that the policy of this government is straightforward and does not necessarily involve war. It is a known fact that the Cubans would not refuse to assume a part of the Spanish debt upon the island, and that they would be glad to avail themselves of a guarantee of their bonds either by this government or by private capitalists. It is held, however, that if this government is not going to give up the guarantee itself it cannot base negotiations on the private transacbase negotiations on the private transac-tions of individuals, but that the recogni-tion of independence of Cuba by this govfrom of independence of cuba by this government must come independently of any financial deal the Cuban or private parties may enter into with Spain. The whole thing is regarded as of a piece with the many other suggestions of settlement which have been made and have been declared a sure thing by their authors.

The Adjournment Story. On a par with this is the story that the ocrats in Congress at an adjournment of Congress before any thing is done in the Cuban matter. The fact is, as disclosed in conversations with many men in both houses of Congress, that there is no party division on the question of the present crisis, but the democrats almost to a man are opposed to an ad-journment until the policy of the President is definitely announced. Many, and probably most, of the republicans occupy guished on party lines, are anxious that Congress should adjourn, leaving the Cuban question unsettled. These are ultra peace nen: men who are for peace at any position generally assumed is that the resident, having the support of Congress, s going to follow out a policy which will be satisfactory to Congress. If this as sumption is correct there is believed to be reason why Congress should be in session or it to do: if the assumption is incorrect. then there will be a strong disposition on the part of Congress to take some action respecting Cuba. Senator Jones of Arkansas, the democratleader of the Senate, said today that he had heard of no such thing as democrats

trying to force an adjournment, and that he suggestion was absurd. The Court of Inquiry Report. Among the reports is one that the board of inquiry is to hold back its report for a long time at the suggestion of the adminisration. Men in Congress who are in touch with the administration insist that the President is not trying to control or in-

fluence the court of inquiry in any way whatever, and that he is as desirous of an arly report as is any one.

The announcement that the Spanish torpedo fleet has sailed for Cuba confirms the belief of officials that the statement that his fleet was not to sail was put out for he purpose of deceiving this it is regarded as unfortunate, if war is to ome, that this fleet should be permitted o get safely across the sea and strengthen

ARMY AND NAVY ORDERS.

Notes of General Interest to the Service.

Maj. George Andrews, recently appointed assistant adjutant general, has been relieved from duty with the National Guard of Ohio and ordered to take station at Omaha as adjutant general of the Department of the Missouri. Lieut. William J. Barden, Corps of En-

rineers, has been ordered to temporary duty at Newport, R. I.

Maj. Wallace F. Randelph, 2d Artillery, has been relieved from duty at Fort Riley, Kan., and ordered to duty at San Fran

First Lieuts. John R. Williams, 8d Artillefy, and George L. Anderson, 4th Artillery have been ordered to report at Fort Monroe for examination for promotion. Leaves of absence for one month have been granted Capt. M. M. Brawer, assist-ant surgeon, and Lieut. G. W. S. Stevens, lst Artillery.

Liaut. Matt R. Peterson, Company B, and Lieut. H. J. Hunt, Company K, have exchanged places in the 6th Infantry.

Commander R. Rush has been ordered to the command of the training ship Essex, March 19 relieving ist Artillery.

March 19, relieving Commander E. T. Strong, who is ordered home and granted two months' leave.

Commander S. Belden was placed on the Commander 8. Belden, was placed on the retired list today by operation of law.
Chaplain F. B. Rose has been detached from the Naval Home, Philadelphia, to await retirement April 5.
Ensign D. F. Sellers, from the Essex to the Alliance as watch and division officer, relieving Ensign A. A. McKethan, who is ordered to the Essex.
Ensign H. E. Smith and Pay Inspector.

Ensign H. E. Smith and Pay Inspector Griffing have been transferred from the Baltimore to the Bennington.

Paymaster's Clerk T. J. Hoskinson has been ordered to duty under Pay Director F. C. Cosby, general inspector of the Pay

Corps.

Civil Engineer A. J. Menocal, who has been ordered to special duty at Key West, was at the Navy Department today in consultation with the officials with regard to the projected work at the Florida station.

Assistant Engineer H. E. Biscoe of the Essex reported in this city today for examination for promotion. He is stopping at 813 21st street.

San Francisco Harbor Safe From Hostile Fleet Attacks.

HEAVY BATTERIES FOR NEW YORK

Illinois Nayal Reserves Actively Preparing for War.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 15.-The land defenses of San Francisco harbor have been greatly strengthened of late and the military and naval authorities agree that the presence of the tattle ship Oregon is not essential for the protection of the port.

The ten-inch battery at Fort Point has been reinforced by the addition of two given during a single session of Congress. guns, so there are now five ten-inch rifles in position. Five twelve-inch guns commanding a fine sweep of the ocean can be brought to bear on a ship attempting to pass through the narrow channel between Lime Point and Fort Point.

Three more 12-inch guns at Fort Baker, Three more 12-inch guns at rort maker, together with the 16 mortars and three dynamite guns on the peninsula, can also be brought into use at long or short range.

The great guns on Lime Point, nearly 500 feet above the water, are so high that a plunging fire against the deck of a ship may be delivered. All of the formidable may be delivered. All of the formidable weapons are so situated that their fire may be concentrated on any hostile fleet attempting to enter the Golden Gate.

Batteries at Fort Wadsworth, NEW YORK, March 15.-Representatives of the government visited Fort Wadsworth and have secured valuable land adjoining the new fertifications.

have been put to work with orders to rush the completion of the three heavy batteries, which, when completed, will mount the heaviest disappearing guns in New York barbor. Illinois Naval Reserve.

Extra gangs of mechanics and laborers

CHICAGO, March 15.-Twelve thousand dollars will be raised by the Naval Reserve

Association of Illinois to uniform and equip the Chicago ships crew. Resolutions to this effect were adopted unanimously by the officers and the trustees of the association. Oregon National Guard.

PORTLAND, Oreg., March 15.-Steps have been taken looking to the organization of a naval reserve for the state of Oregon.

At a meeting in the 1st Regiment Armory of the Oregon National Guard, a roll was opened and twenty-five signatures secured. It is expected that forty men will sign the roll, and then application will be made to Governor Lord for authority to organize

Inspection Board Meets. NEW YORK, March 15 .- The board for the inspection of auxiliary cruisers met in secret session today. The board is to decide today whether the American line

shall be held for armament.

A draft of thirty-three men for the Columbia and Minneapolis at League Island was sent off from the Brooklyn navy yard today. They were taken off by a navy yard tug and sent to Jersey City in charge

of Warrant Officer Peter Ward. Enlistment at New Orleans. NEW ORLEANS, March 15 .-- The enlist ment office here was opened this morning at the custom house, in charge of Lieut. Commander Hawley, Chief Engineer Web-

ster and Surgeon Persons. Long before the offices were thrown open several hundred men had gathered before the doors, and throughout the morning the crowd increased. The enlisting officers found an abundance of good material and all applicants were subjected to rigid examinations. The promise is that the desired complement for the navy will be speedily secured.

TO IMPROVE THE SERVICE.

Naval Needs Considered by the Hons Committee.

When Secretary Long was before the naval committee yesterday in the course of his remarks he recommended the passage of the bill for the reorganization of the personnel of the navy which was prepared by the board of which Assistant Secretary Roosevelt was president. He said it would be a good time to remove the strife which has been caused for so many years between the officers of the line and staff by the existing conditions and would also provide some additional officers now urgently needed for the ships which are going into commission. But the matter was not particularly pressed. Nothing was said about the President's indorsement of

the measure. It is likely that the committee will take up the consideration of the bill after the naval appropriation bill is completed. The committee is generally favorable to the creases asked by Chief Engineer Melville.

Paymaster General Stewart and Surgeon General Van Reypen. Chief Engineer Melville asked for an increase of 107 engineer officers, and when Mr. Boutelle suggested that 100 additional machinists might meet the demands of the engineer department he made no stron protest. Some of the members of the nave committee are becoming very impatient over the long delay in completing the bill, and a strong effort will be made to settle the dock question today. Several of the members have decided to support a propo-

sition for four new docks.

Secretary Long today sent to Chairman Boutelle a provision to be inserted in the naval bill incorporating the recommenda-tions he made yesterday as to assistant en-gineers or skilled machinists, assistant paymasters and assistant surgeons being reased in number

For a Naval Training Station. The Senate committe on naval affairs today authorized a favorable report on the amendment to the naval appropriation bill appropriating \$100,000 for a naval training station on Yerba Buena Island, California.

EXPECTED CIVIL SERVICE ORDER It Was Not Discussed in the Cabinet Meeting.

The President did not talk with the cabinet today about the civil service order he is expected to promulgate. The general expectation has been that the order was due about this time, but the President has been so heavily employed with other work as to have been unable to give the atten-tion to the order that he desired. The order, when promulgated, will follow many of the recommendations of the Senate civil service committee, but will not be so broad

CALLERS ON THE PRESIDENT.

It is claimed that Mr. Stevenson was summoned here by the President. The confererce with the President was held in the library just before the cabinet meeting. The members of the party refused to dis-

cuss the occasion of their visit.

The interview lasted only a few minutes, and as he left the White House Mr. Stevenson said that he called simply to pay his respects to the President. In reply to inquiries, he said that he had no information not accessible to every one, but it was his belief that our differences with Spain would be honorably settled without resorting to war.

Col. Robert G. Ingersoll and Denman Thompson were also visitors at the White

RAILWAY LEGISLATION. Senator Pettigrew Will Endeavor to

Limit the Extension Franchises. When the Capital Traction Company's bill is called up in the Senate on the me tion made by Mr. Lindsay for reconsideration a few days age, Senator Pettigrew will have considerable to say about this and other street railroad bills that are now pending before Congress. These bills grant the companies the most extensive extensions of their lines which have ever been Senator Pettigrew will endeavor to have all the bills amended so that the franchise for extensions may be a limited one, and at the expiration of a certain term of years may give the government an option to either purchase these roads and operate them in the future as municipal enterprises, or to again lease them on terms to be determin-ed upon at that time. Mr. Pettigrew will also endeavor to have a provision inserted in these bills which will prevent the water-ing of stock or the paying of excessive divi-dends to the stockholders. He will also have a provision in regard to the taxation of the companies which will give the gov-ernment a larger return of revenue from

SENOR QUESADA.

that source.

Gossip Over His Attendance at the Vice President's Reception.

Considerable gossip was excited today by the fact that Senor Quesada, the secretary of the Cuban junta, was one of the guests at the reception of the Vice President to Prince Albert last evening. Senor Quesada has been the recipient of much social attention in Washington, but the almost official character of this reception by the Vice President to the heir presumptive to the throne of Belgium renders his invitation, in the opinion of the gossips, rather a broad recognition. In any other country than this it would be regarded, it is said, as equivalent to a semi-official recognitio of his status as a foreign representative.

SAILED FROM LISBON.

Departure of the San Francisco for England.

In obedience to orders from the Navy Depertment, the San Francisco, flagship of the European station, sailed from Lisbon, Pertugal, this morning, for Newcastle, England, for the purpose of transferring a crew with a suitable number of officers to the warship Amazonas, which has just been purchased by the United States from the government of Brazil. It has also been avaranged that the San England should be should be suitable and the spectators are suitable of the spectators. The solution of the content of the spectators are suitable to the special solution of the content of the spectators. The solution of the spectators are particularly that the solution of the throng and settled the uncertainty that seemed to exist as to what exactly ought to be done with Canty. "He will go with me," said the officer, as with a firm grasp of Canty's arm he began to force his way out of the crowd again. But as he moved the spectators moved also, and so the mass of men with the police officer and Canty in the center was a suitable of the special to reason to reason to the special to reason to arranged that the San Francisco shall accompany the new naval acquisition across

the Atlantic to this country. The two vessels will start on their vov age as soon as the Amazonas can be made ready, which is not expected to consume more than a few days. The .election of a of the ship has been left to ean station, who is now on the San Francisco, and the probability is that the duty will devolve upon the executive officer of

hat vessel Although the United States has aiready taken practical possession of the Abreuall the other Brazilian warship purchased for the United States navy, it will be several weeks before that vessel is in complete eadiness for sea service. In the meantime arrangements will be

made to supply her with officers and a crew, so that there may be no delay in her departure for the United States. While it is known that the Secretary of ment of other warships building in European yards. Secretary Long is authority statement that no others have as yet been secured.

KENTUCKY TOWN'S BAD PLIGHT.

Middlesboro' Has a Smallpox Epidemic and Needs Aid. FRANKFORT, Ky., March 15 .- The ernor received a message from Middlesbero' today stating there are seventy new cases of smallpox and 400 suspects there. The city is quarantined, has no money, the county can apprepriate none and the city's stricken people are liable to starve. The governor at once prepared an emergency special message to the legislature. which is in session for the last day, urging them to make an appropriation, and intimating that he will sign a bill without any question about the irregularities of Sick members of the board of health have telegraphed their resignations, in order that well men, able to go to the scene of trouble, may be appointed in their stead.

PLEASED AT QUESADA INCIDENT. Senor Palma Thinks It Has Deep Significance.

NEW YORK, March 15.-Dr. Tomas

Estrada Palma of the Cuban junta in this city said today: "I consider Mr. Quesada's presence at Vice President Hobart's reception to the Belgian prince in Washington yesterday a natter of great importance. He was invited as the accredited representative of the Cuban republic, together with the Spanish minister and other members of

the diplomatic corps.
"Mr. Quesada's presence under the circumstances as an honored guest is very significant. It is a semi-official recognition of the Cuban republic. "I have known that Vice President Ho bert's sympathies were with the Cubas cause, and I am glad he has made that

fact known in such a public manner. EXPORTS AND IMPORTS.

Statement of the Bureau of Statistics for February. The monthly statement of the import and exports of the United States, issued b the bureau of statistics, shows that during February last the exports of domestic

merchandise amounted to \$93,312,674, a

gain as compared with February, 1897, of about \$15,500,000. The imports of merchandise during the last month aggregated \$53,082,117, of which \$22,653,304 was free of duty. The total imports of merchandise during February show a decrease of over \$6,000,-

000 as compared with February, 1897. The gold exports amounted to \$951.367 and the imports \$5,329,100. The silver exports aggregated \$3,753,331 and the imports

Ex-Vice President Stevenson a Caller at the White House.

A mysterious kind of a visit was paid to the White House today by ex-Vice President Stevenson, Ferdinand Psck of Chicago and John C. Calhoun of New York.

For the eight months ended with February there was an increase, as compared with the same period last year, of \$77,537,101 in the exports of domestic merchandise; a decrease of \$3,021,116 in the imports of gold; a decrease of \$3,021,110 in the exports of gold; a decrease of \$3,321,110 in the exports of silver.

Advertising is not an expense. It is a business investment. If you want to invest your money profitably you will therefore put your advertisements in such a paper as The Evening Star, that is read regularly and thoroughly by everybody worth reaching. The Stai is the recognized household and family journal of the National Capital, and has no rival as an advertising med-

DAYLIGHT TRAGEDY

Dennis J. Canty Shoots and Kills George M. Rye.

BOTH WERE WELL KNOWN

An Exciting Affair on a Crowded Business Street.

THE PRISONER'S STATEMENT

Demis J. Canty shot and killed George Rye a few minutes after 12 o'clock today at the northwest corner of 14th and F streets. Death was practically immediate. Canty was taken to the first precinct station, on 12th street, and the body of Rye was first carried to Drew's drug store on the opposite corner and then removed in the ambulance of the Emergency Hospital. The cause of the tragedy was a difficulty

about money matters. As may be imagined, an occurrence of such a sensational character as the shooting of a man in one of the busiest bustness sections of the city at an hour in the day when probably more people arc on the streets than at any other time created the most intense excitement. People were swarming out of the Treasury Department and the places of business on the way to lunch and enjoying the bright sunshine. Suddenly the report of a pistol was heard, the shots, three or four in number, following each other in rapid succession.

Looking in the direction of the sound the spectators saw a youngish-looking man, wearing a Prince Albert black coat and a silk hat, standing in the street about ten or fifteen feet from the northwest corner of 14th and F streets. All at once he staggered, then his arms went up above his head and he sank on one knee. He struggied to get up, but in vain, and then he fell on the pavement, going down heavily and in a heap, as if he had lost entire control of his body. Men and boys ran to the fallen man, while others collected about a large, well-dressed man, who with pale face stood facing the crowd.

The Arrest.

There were cries heard of "Don't let him get away," and some threats were uttered. The tall man, who proved to be Canty, assured those about him that he was not going to try to get away, and in a few moments a policeman forced a path through

started to go down 14th street. Happening to see a cab standing on 14th street, the officer concluded that he would make betprisoner inside, he took a seat at his side and, the driver marting his horses, the vol-

untary escort was soon left behind.

In the meantime the Emergency Hospital vagon had been summoned and the body of Rye was brought out from the drug store where it had been carried and the wagon followed at a short interval down 14th street the cab containing Canty. After the removal of the two principals, dead and living, the crowd surged around trying to

find out the details of the affair.

Much Excitement. In the excitement of the moment there were several rather sharp encounters among individuals composing the crowd

about Canty.

feeling seemed to reach a rather acute stage and at one time there was a liability of personal encounters. A large number of people saw one or more phases, but very few the entire affair. One man at least was a witness of the entire tragedy, and that was Mr. Pierre Waggaman. He was standing at the north-west corner of 14th street and F street talking with Canty when Rye came up.

As he was taken away by the officer the

"It is a singular coincidence," said Mr. Weggardan, in talking to a Star reporter about the matter, "that when Rye approached us Canty was saying to me that he was afraid that Rye was going to kill him. Yesterday Canty told me Rye met Canty in front of 1331 F street and he drew a knife and threatened to kill him. "When Rye came up to us today," continued Mr. Waggaman,

mife and was evidently intending to at-

tack Canty, when the latter drew his pis-tol and shot him. It was purely a case of self-defense," concluded Mr. Waggaman. The Statement of the Prisoner. Mr. Canty was seen by a reporter for The Evening Star shortly after he was taken to the first precinct station house. He was seated in a chair inside the railing behind which the station keeper's desk is situated, and was calm and collected. He said that he had not yet seen counsel, and was disinclined to talk until he had done so, but he felt sure that The Star reporter

would record him correctly.
"When the brokerage firm of which I was a member falled some time ago from the effects of the bull market," said Mr. Canty, "Georg: Rye had an account with the firm. He claimed that there was a balnce in his favor, but upon an examination of the books it was shown that he was really indebted to the firm to a small ne declined to believe it, and continued to demand what he claimed was due him Even if his claim had been well founded it would have been impossible to have paid him the debt, because I had lost all I had in the failure, and had even gone so far as to sell the carpets off the floor of my hou

to help meet my obligations Meeting of the Men Yesterday. "As time has gone on, Rye has become more persistent in his demands, and yesterday, on F street, in front of Jeffrey's roker's office, he assaulted me. He drew out a knife and held it in his hand and declared that he would call me up and down every time and everywhere he met me. I told him that it was not right for him to feel the way he did, and that if he would only listen to an explanation he would realize it. He continued his abuse of me, still holding the knife in his hand, and I

walked away from him. "Today I was standing with Pierre Wag-geman in front of the new Western Union telegraph office, at the corner of 14th and E telegraph office, at the corner of 14th and F streets, when Rye came up. He said to me: 'Do you want to call me now?' I told him: 'No, George: I don't want to call you at any time.' His manner then grew as threatening as it was yesterday and he put his hand behind him. I thought he was going to draw his knife and attack me, and I stepped back and shot him, because I felt that it was the only thing for me to do. How is he?"

The Star reporter informed Mr. Canty that Mr. Rye was dead. The announcement did not change the manner of the prisoner, save to the extent of causing him to lower his voice.

Informed of Rye's Death

"I am very sorry for that," he said, "but I am sure that it was a question of my